

STATE OF NEW YORK

LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, N.Y., JULY 30, 2015 A.D.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT *at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 30th day of July, 2015 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

WHEREAS, *the Blue Star became an icon during World War II signifying homes where service members lived; and*

WHEREAS, *the Blue Star Memorial Program began in 1944 when the Garden Club of New Jersey planted 1,000 dogwood trees along five miles of highway, designated as Blue Star Drive; and*

WHEREAS, *the Blue Star Memorial Program was adopted by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. in 1945, creating a "ribbon of living memorial plantings traversing every state" to honor WWII veterans; and*

WHEREAS, *the mission of the Blue Star Memorial Program expanded in 1951 to honor all who have served, are serving and would serve in the armed forces of the United States; and*

WHEREAS, *the Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker is being dedicated in the newly designated Honor Garden at Chestnut Ridge Park; and*

WHEREAS, *The Honor Garden was planted by the South Towns Gardeners in cooperation with the Erie County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry and through generous grants from the Garden Clubs of WNY Eighth District and the Chestnut Ridge Conservancy.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, *the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to commend and thank the members of the South Towns Gardeners for planting and maintaining the Honor Garden and dedicating the Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker as a living memorial to honor the men and women in our armed forces.*

John J. Mills
Chairman
Erie County Legislator – 11th District

Karen M. McCarthy
Clerk of the Erie County Legislature